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copy-1*PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION OF FUNKHAUPTGEFREITERLOTHAR BIEGE, OF 3 Kp. MPA, THE BIGHT.

Attached is a report, forwarded by S.I.D., USFET, of the preliminary interrogation of BIEGE. It was carried out at Dustbin on 10th September, 1945 by Capt. J.C. Adams, AUS, and Lt. E.A. Whitney, AUS.

TICOM

No. of pages: 2.

8th October, 1945

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SIGNAL SECURITY DETACHMENT "D"
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10 September, 1945.

PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION OF LOTHAR BIEGE

Funkhauptgefreiter (Marine).

Lothar BIEGE. (preliminary Interrogation, 8 September 1945). Pw is 22 years old, born at Muenster; married, one child. Also has tuberculosis and worms. READING KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH.

Military Career

Inducted in April 1941. Assigned to Navy, trained as Funker and Auswerter at Nachrichtenschulen (Aurich and Muenster). Also received training in D/F. Was subsequently attached to Auswertungsstelle at Neu Muenster; thereafter to 3 Kp., MPA, the Bight; and also served at station on Roeggö. He never left the European theatre.

Operational Experience

Pw worked mostly with British and American merchant marine traffic. As an Auswerter, he knew nothing of cryptanalytic procedures, although decyphering was done in the Auswertungsstelle when the keys were available.

British and American merchant marine traffic (BAMS) used two codes. One employed 2 4-letter indicators and 5-figure code groups. The other used 2 4-figure indicators and 5-figure code groups. Allied home stations used both systems for communication with shipping, while the ships mostly used only the first one. It had been captured by the Germans in 1943, but the Allies continued to use it until the end of the war. The other code could not be read. A British address book, giving 2 or 3 letter combinations for the names of ships and home stations, was reconstructed by the Germans.

Three codes used by the Royal Navy, designated in the preamble of messages as LOXO, FOXO and ODAM (sometimes ~~ODAM~~) respectively, were broken, partly through captured materials. The Navy's call-sign system and system of enciphering names of ships were also solved.

American merchant marine traffic employed monalphabetic systems until after Pearl Harbour, when the codes mentioned above were adopted.

The American Navy used cipher machines, and its traffic was unbreakable. A code-name list, consisting of four-letter, pronounceable, combinations was in German hands, and it was never changed.

PW stated that technical information was passed on by the Germans to Japan and Italy. He thought he could supply, to a certain extent, the organisation of the German Naval Cryptanalytic organisation.

BIEGE now in hospital. He will be able to do homework and probably can also be interrogated.